



THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATION

Devoted to Education, Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Volume XXI.

Quebec, Province of Quebec, April, 1877.

No. 4.

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Circular of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

QUEBEC, MARCH 10, 1877

GENTLEMEN,

Together with this Circular I transmit to you a copy of the whole collection of our School Laws.

The Legislature of Quebec having, at its last Session, passed an Act to authorize the codification of our Provincial Statutes, the Laws relating to Public Instruction will, I hope, be consolidated very soon; in the mean time I have judged it necessary to have these Laws printed in pamphlet form, in order to facilitate their study. They are numerous, and being, besides, dispersed through the volumes of the Statutes published from year to year, some of the provisions might escape notice, and thus mistakes might arise, and possibly, considerable expenses be incurred.

This pamphlet contains all the general laws concerning Public Instruction in this Province. To these are annexed some local enactments, inserted with the intention, in the first instance, of being useful to those whom they immediately concern, and secondly, to serve for the guidance of those municipalities that may be disposed to demand special legislation from Parliament.

I invite your attention to the notes, in italics, which I have placed in the margin. These indicate the amendments introduced by subsequent legislation, to which, again, reference is made so as to render it easy for you to compare the texts with each other. They refer also to

the forms which are to be found at the end of the latest enactment of the Legislature, Vict. 40, ch. 22, 1876. You would do well to study these forms attentively, at least as regards their sense, even if they may not be obligatory to the letter.

You will observe, also, that I have replaced, by the text of the law at present in force, certain repealed clauses of chap. 15 of the Consolidated Statutes of Lower Canada. In so doing, my desire has been to spare you the trouble of searching and of useless reading. I am pleased to think that the pamphlet will prove of great assistance to you in the discharge of your functions; and I request of you to preserve it among the records of your scholastic corporation, so as to have it always at hand at your official meetings. But, in transmitting to you the complete collection of our school laws, I consider it my duty, in order to facilitate your interpretation of them, to address to you some observations which should be read at one of your regular meetings

"THE JOURNAL OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION."

Allow me, in the first place, to announce to you that, in future, the *Journal of Public Instruction* will be furnished gratuitously to the teachers, male and female, engaged by you. On receipt of this circular, your secretary-treasurer should inform me of the number of schools in your municipality, in order that I may cause a like number of copies of the Journal to be addressed to him for delivery to those entitled to receive them. I adopt this mode of transmission in order that it may be clearly understood that this gift of the *Journal of Education* is intended for the School Municipality, and not for the teachers personally. The copies received will be your property, and it will be for you to see that they are preserved among the records of each school, with a view to the use of succeeding teachers for consultation as required. The *Journal* is prepared especially for their advantage, and, frequently, it contains articles the reading of which in class may prove at once interesting and instructive to the children.

REPORTS OF ELECTIONS.

You are bound by sect. 44 ch. 15, Consol. Stat. L. C., on pain of a fine of \$5, to apprise the Superintendent of the